

PREFACE

*Peter JORDAN, Vienna [Wien]**

The symposium

These proceedings are the result of a symposium that has been organised for three motives: The European Union's eastern enlargement had started ten years before, and it was interesting to look at its effects from a geographical perspective. 'Geographical perspective' was conceived as looking especially into fields like regional development, regional disparities, urban development, inter-cultural contact, migration and integration as well as geopolitical aspects. A second motive was the completion of the Atlas of Eastern and Southeastern Europe, a long-term project from 1989 to 2014. Finally, the official retirement of its editor as a civil officer of the Austrian government gave good reason to convene all these, with whom he had cooperated quite a span of his lifetime and to whom he wished to express his sincere thanks for all their kindness and fine cooperation.

The combination of these reasons attracted finally 126 participants from 20 countries and three continents. This great response is also due to the support of and the fine cooperation with partners and co-organisers, i.e. (in English alphabetical order) the Austrian Geographical Society [Österreichische Geographische Gesellschaft, ÖGG], founded in 1856, one of the oldest geographical associations in the world and represented at this symposium by its president, Christian STAUDACHER; the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe [Institut für den Donaauraum und Mitteleuropa, IDM], after the closing down of the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies [Österreichisches Ost- und Südosteuropa-Institut] the only remaining scientific institution in Austria focusing on the eastern part of Europe and conducting a very ambitious programme of conferences and projects, represented by its managing director Susan MILFORD; and the Munich-based Southeast Europe Association [Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft, SOG], which runs branches in all the major university centres of Germany and carries on a wide scope of activities ranging from the promotion of young scientists up to the consultation of politicians, represented by its managing director Hansjörg BREY.

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Honouring merits in the atlas recently completed: The Atlas of Eastern and Southeastern Europe (1989-2014)

The Atlas was initiated in 1987 by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research. In 1989, the first two instalments were published, in 2014 it was completed by its 30th instalment.¹ The Atlas started at the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies as a follow-up project of the Atlas of the Danubian Countries [Atlas der Donauländer] edited by Josef BREU, shifted in 2007 to the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Urban and Regional Research (directed by Heinz FASSMANN) after the Austrian Institute of East and Southeast European Studies had been closed down, and continued here the tradition of atlas projects, i.e. the Atlas of the Republic of Austria [Atlas der Republik Österreich] and the Atlas of Lower Austria [Atlas von Niederösterreich]. It was conceived as a project of basic research with a thematic focus on the spatial effects of transformation in the eastern, i.e. the former Communist part of Europe.

The added value of this atlas compared to other national and international thematic mapworks was conceived to be established by (1) providing for transnational comparison by portraying a group of countries and harmonizing classifications and data; (2) a rather detailed spatial resolution by applying map scales of 1:3 million and larger; (3) a rather scientific character (not only by detailed spatial resolution, but also) by presenting synthetic, classifying – not only statistical and elementary-analytical – maps, as well as by very comprehensive explanatory texts; (4) connecting Europe by focusing not only on European Union (EU) countries, for which data are relatively easily available, but also on the East and Southeast, i.e. on countries in the status of integrating or wishing to integrate into European structures. The Atlas was thus to offer some advice for European integration processes.

Special attention was paid to the spelling of place names with all the diacritics and special letters as well as to applying the conversion systems for non-Roman scripts as recommended by the United Nations in the good tradition of the Atlas of the Danubian Countries and of Josef BREU, who was our teacher in this respect. Bilingual (German/English) titles, legends and texts made the Atlas accessible for users in all the countries portrayed and at the international market.

The Atlas was organised as a project located in Vienna [Wien], mainly financed by the Austrian government and carried by a single institution. But in fact, it developed

¹ For a critical reflection of its editing and a complete list of contents see JORDAN P. (2014), Zum Abschluss des Atlases Ost- und Südosteuropa (AOS). Ein (selbst)kritischer Rückblick des Chefredakteurs. In: Mitteilungen der Österreichischen Geographischen Gesellschaft, 156, pp. 345-358. For a presentation and discussion of some of its contents see JORDAN P. (2016), The Atlas of Eastern and Southeastern Europe as a source of information on transformation processes in the Danube Region. In: BARIČ O. (ed.), Hlavné smery rozvoja Dunajskej stratégie, pp. 7-32. Bratislava, Národné centrum európskych a globálnych štúdií.

into an international network, in which the editorial board functioned just as the node or hub. This international network finally comprised 123 researchers from 19 countries, who contributed as map and/or text authors:

Albania:	QIRIASI, P. SAMIMI, E.	Czechia:	HAVRLANT, Miroslav KOLEJKA, J. KOŽELUH, M. MIKULÍK, Oldřich NOVÁČEK, V. QUITT, Evžen VAISHAR, Antonin VYSTOUPIL, Jiří
Austria:	GABRISCH, Hubert HEUBERGER, Valeria JORDAN, Peter KOCH, Klaus MANGOTT, Gerhard MUSIL, Robert PARTL, Florian SAUBERER, Michael SCHAPPELWEIN, Karl SEGER, Martin SLAWINSKI, Ilona SUPPAN, Arnold TOMASI, Elisabeth WEIGEL, Martina WEILGUNI, Werner	Estonia:	KIVISTIK, J.
Belarus:	JACUHO, V. KOROL, R.	Germany:	DRÄGER, D. FÖRSTER, Horst FRIEDLEIN, Günther GRIMM, Frank-Dieter HARTUNG, Arno JAKSCH, T. KAHL, Thede KNAPPE, Elke LIPSKÝ, Z. LOOSE, G. MÜLLER, Evelin PAESLER, R. SCHÖNFELDER, Günther WOLF, Josef
Bulgaria:	DONČEV, Dončo GEŠEV, Gešo ILIEV, Iliya P. ILIEVA, Margarita JORDANOVA, M. MARINOV, W. VELEV, St. VOLKOVA, I.	Hungary:	BARÁTH, J. BASSA, László BAUKÓ, T. CSORBA, P. CSORDÁS, László GURZÓ, I. KOCIS, Károly MICZEK, György MIKLÓS, L.
Croatia:	CURIĆ, Zoran KLEMENČIĆ, Mladen MIKAČIĆ, Vesna PEPEONIK, Zlatko STIPERSKI, Zoran TOSKIĆ, A.		

Lithuania:	KRUZMETRA, M. LABANAUSKAITE, D. PAULIUKIČIUS, G.	TARHOV, Sergej TREJVIŠ, A.I.
Macedonia:	STOJMILOV, A.	Serbia: KICOŠEV, S.
Moldova:	LOZOVANU, Dorin	Slovakia: FERANEC, Jan HORN, U. KABELÁČOVA, K. KOLLÁR, Daniel MARIOT, Peter OŤAHEL, J.
Poland:	BARANIECKI, L. DUDA, M. EBERHARDT, Piotr JANKOWSKI, Andrzej T. KOWALSKI, M. KUPISZEWSKI, Marek LESEČKO, M. LEWANDOWSKI, Wojciech MILLER, G.P. PLIT, Joana RICHLING, Andrzej SADOWSKI, Sylwester TRAFAS, Kazimierz WYRZYKOWSKI, Jerzy	Slovenia: JERŠIČ, Matjaž KARTAŠEVIČ, A. NATEK, K. PAK, Mirko ŠPES, Metka ZUPANČIČ, Jernej
Romania:	BODOCAN, Voicu BRUCKNER, Leonard ENACHE, Lidia NICOLESCU, Gh. PUSCASU, Adina SURD, Vasile ZĂVOIANU, E.	Ukraine: BALAŠOVA, T.P. ČERNJAVS'KA, A.P. ČESNJAK, G.Ja. GRIB, J.V. KANAŠ, O.P. LAKTIONOVA, T.M. MEDVEDĚV, V.V. MIRONJUK, V. RAZOV, Volodimir P. RUDENKO, Leoníd G. ŠABLIJ, Oleh SEMENOVA, Ĭ.P. STOJKO, Stefan VERNIČENKO, G.A. VLADIMIR, P. ZINKO, Y.
Russian Federation:	BARANOVŠ'KIJ, V.A ČERNJAVS'KA, A. MARKOVSKI, B. NEFEDOVA, Tat'jana RATČINA, Marina	

The editorial board in Vienna counted four persons at the maximum, but at least two of them had also other tasks. Florian PARTL was the one, who accompanied this Atlas throughout the editorial period and for him the atlas was also the main business. Elisabeth TOMASI, Karl SCHAPPELWEIN and Thede KAHL were long-term co-operators.

The Atlas enjoyed also close and long-term co-operation with scientific institutions abroad, i.e. with the Leibniz Institute of Regional Geography [Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde] in Leipzig, when Alois MAYR and Sebastian LENTZ were its directors and Frank-Dieter GRIMM and Elke KNAPPE were heads of the department operational in this respect, and the Institute of Danube-Swabian History and Regional Research [Institut für donauschwäbische Geschichte und Landeskunde] in Tübingen, especially under its director Horst FÖRSTER.

A very constructive role in the cartographic conception of the project had Fritz KELNHOFER and Mirjanka LECHTHALER from the Technical University of Vienna [Technische Universität Wien]. Most valuable and indispensable was the careful work of many cartographers and IT experts both in Vienna and with the private enterprise Sféra in Bratislava, which was with its director Oskar HALZL the Atlas' 'technical branch' for some time:

AIGNER, Sebastian	KNÁNIKOVÁ, E.	SAUL, Robert
BLAŽOVÁ, S.	KRIZ, Karel	SCHAPPELWEIN, Karl
BÖHM, Fritz	KRIBBEL, Johannes	SCHIMON, G.
DĄBROWSKI, Andrzej	LANGSFELDOVÁ, D.	SOMMER, E.
DORFFNER, L.	LECHTHALER, Mirjanka	STARK, B.
GRUBER, Edith	MARKUS, I.	STAŠÍKOVÁ, M.
GUNERT, S.	MARSCHNER, Christian	STUHR, Heinz
FELLHOFER, A.	OLEŠKEVIČ, E.	SZYDLAK, R.
FÜRPASZ, Christian	PARTL, Florian	TOMASI, Elisabeth
HAMMERLE, Heinrich	POPELIŠOVÁ, K.	TOMKO, M.
HORVATH, Daniel	RESCH, Christian	WANZENBÖCK, C.
HRIVNÁKOVÁ, Eva	RIEDL, Andreas	WASSERBAUER, Klaus
KAHL, Thede	ROSER, N.	WEIGEL, Martina
KASYK, S.	REZEK, Kurt	
KLEŠTINCKOVÁ, A.	RUPP, K.	

It is not the least due to the efforts of publisher Gebr. Borntraeger, Stuttgart, with its directors A. NÄGELE and Walter OBERMILLER that the Atlas achieved some international distribution and attention.

This book

This book is divided into nine chapters, each bunching together articles on a major geographical aspect of EU enlargement. The first deals with geopolitical perspectives and the European integration process in general. It starts with Giuliano BELLEZZA's (Rome [Roma]) very personal account of Europe's younger political history conveying some disappointment about European integration and culminating in the statement that "more is not necessarily better". It continues with Anton GOSAR's (Portorož/Portorose) report on his own identity changes from a Serbian national across a Slovenian national to a European. Whether this – perhaps a precondition for further European integration – can be accepted as a model by many Europeans, remains an interesting question. William BERENTSEN (Storrs, Connecticut) then investigates into Eastern Germany, the in fact earliest 'eastern enlargement' of the (later) EU and the case with the longest record of potential EU impacts. He finds, however, that the impact of German reunification by far prevails. Damir JOSIPOVIČ (Ljubljana) focuses on the relative impact of the economic crises of the late 2000s (Global Economic Crisis, Euro Crisis) on central and peripheral European countries and arrives at the conclusion that not so much the former West-East divide than the North-South divide makes the difference. Milan BUFON (Koper/Capodistria) highlights by the example of the Adriatic space the possibilities and opportunities of governance by different horizontal (spatial and sectorial) as well as vertical (hierarchical) policies. Jordi MARTÍN-DÍAZ (Barcelona) finally asks for the obstacles for state and peace building in Bosnia-Herzegovina – a country in which, despite of substantial international and European intervention, the three constitutive nations have not yet succeeded in finding a consensus about their common future.

The chapter on migration is introduced by Heinz FASSMANN (Vienna), who hints in his study on migration to and from South-East Europe at the fact that the period after the fall of Communism is marked by brain drain significantly impeding economic development prospects and by high migration potential that may be effectuated should local conditions not improve and new opportunities abroad arise. Daniel GÖLER (Bamberg) continues with accompanying Albania with its development from an isolated state, where even domestic migration was severely restricted, to a migration society, in which every second person has personal experience in international migration. He points also at the trend of re-migration from Greece that accelerated after the Euro Crisis and makes at least the children of re-migrants sometimes 'strangers in their own country'.

Economic transformation is addressed by three contributions. Gyöngyi KÜRTHY (Budapest) discusses and estimates shadow economy and tax fraud by the example of food industry in Hungary. He highlights herewith a phenomenon certainly widespread in and typical for post-Communist Europe. He arrives at the conclusion that between a quarter and a third of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in this branch are not officially

declared. Emilija MANIĆ and Tatjana RAKONJAC ANTIĆ (both Belgrade [Beograd]) use the private voluntary pension-insurance market as an indicator for revealing regional socio-economic disparities in Serbia. Right because voluntary pension insurance is so far only a marginal phenomenon in Serbia and confined to a smaller number of better-situated people, it serves as quite a good tool in this respect. Csongor MÁTHÉ (Cluj-Napoca) and Géza SCHUBERT (Vienna) finally discuss recent developments of the Romanian transportation network, especially of the Trans-European Networks (TEN-T), documenting – also in comparison to neighbouring countries – a significant delay especially in motorway construction.

The chapter on regional development and spatial planning is opened by Damir MAGAŠ (Zadar), who observes some discrepancies between Croatia's actual central place system and its administrative-territorial structure as well as its NUTS classifications. He pleads also for supporting subsidiary centres to avoid overconcentration on major cities, especially Zagreb. Hunor BAJTALAN (Cluj-Napoca) addresses a politically sensitive topic, when he speaks about administrative regionalisation in Romania in the sense of the frequently discussed introducing of a new administrative layer at the upper regional level, i.e. the level between the counties and the state. He does this on the background of a profound historical and political analysis. The article of Igor ŠIRODOEV, Ioan IANOȘ (both Bucharest [București]), George WHITE (Brookings, South Dakota) and Daniel VÎRDOL (Bucharest) seriously questions the positive effects of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on transformation countries by the example of Romania and shows that effects on less consolidated economies like Romania are rather negative. Their findings also prove that FDI rather emphasises than mitigates subnational spatial disparities, especially in periods of economic crises like after 2007/08. Subnational spatial disparities are also in the focus of the study presented by Margarita ILIEVA (Bydgoszcz) and Iliya ILIEV (Sofia [Sofija]). Their investigation into Poland, a country comparatively successful in economic transformation, in the period 2004-2013 reveals that despite of national and EU disparity equalisation measures socio-economic disparities between voivodships have increased leaving regions without large cities and urban agglomerations as well as regions at the eastern border fringe behind. Juraj SILVAN (Bratislava) continues with some principal thoughts on spatial planning, i.e. urban and regional planning, in a transformed democratic society like the Slovakian. Ivaylo STAMENKOV (Sofia) completes the chapter by providing an answer to the question, whether and if yes, to which extent, Austrian experiences in spatial management [Raumordnung] were transferable to Bulgaria. As a main relevant difference between the two countries and a major obstacle for a full transfer he identifies federal versus centralist political-administrative structures.

The chapter on rural development addresses very likely the severest problem transformation countries are facing from a geographical point of view. Kinga Xénia HAVADI-NAGY (Cluj-Napoca) hints at the many practical difficulties that arise, when European rural development programs are to be locally implemented. She complains

also about an insufficiently defined development vision for the programming period 2007-2013 hindering rather than stimulating rural development. Alexis SANCHO REINOSO and Ede Márton KOVÁCS (both Vienna) then present impressions from a selection of Romanian villages and propose alternative concepts for rural development respecting and taking advantage of local culture and (tacit) knowledge.

The chapter on urban development starts with an investigation of Tomasz NAPIERAŁA (Łódź) into the effectiveness of public expenditure and investment in the Łódź metropolitan area, i.e. not only in the core city, but also in its fringe. It reveals an almost incredible mismatch and in most cases an absence of long-term strategies. The next two contributions deal both with urban regeneration and revitalisation measures set off by property restitution and functional change, respectively. Josip KAJINIĆ and Martina JAKOVČIĆ (both Zagreb) demonstrate that the restitution of property to the Roman-Catholic Church did in the city of Zagreb not necessarily mean functional change of the buildings in question. Most residential buildings preserved their function. The contribution of Cristina and George MERCIU, Mirela PARASCHIV, Loreta CERCLEUX and Ionuț IANOȘ (all Bucharest) shows by some selected examples from Romania that abandoned and dysfunctional industrial sites could very well be converted into cultural centres (museums, spaces for exhibitions and events) fortunately combining two major aspirations: conservation of sometimes remarkable cultural heritage; becoming catalysts of urban revitalisation.

The chapter on inter-cultural contact and minorities reflects the general revival of cultural identities, also of smaller groups. Károly KOCIS (Budapest) raises in this context the question, whether it was not appropriate to establish territorial autonomies for the Hungarians in South Slovakia, in the Ukrainian Tisza Region, in Northwest Romania (Partium) and the Romanian Szekler Land as well as in the Serbian North Bačka. Eckart Wilfried SCHREIBER, Raularian RUSU and Titus MAN (all Cluj-Napoca) portray the development of 20 ethnic minorities in Romania between the population censuses 2002 and 2011 mainly by demographic criteria, spatial distribution and political representation. Katarzyna LEŚNIEWSKA-NAPIERAŁA (Łódź) devotes her research to a rather neglected part of the Polish diaspora, i.e. the Polish minority in Latvia. It is split into two spatially separated and differently active communities in Daugavpils and Riga [Rīga]. Tadeusz SIWEK (Ostrava) points at a delicate problem for Czech minority policy that arises from the fact that a growing share of the population consumes its right not to declare ethnic affiliation with population censuses. Ethnic minorities like then to interpret their relative size in relation to the ethnically declared or (even more favourable for them) in relation to the ethnically declared Czechs to be entitled to a larger share in public funds. Jernej ZUPANČIČ (Ljubljana) finally presents a comparative survey over the various Slovenian borderlands, in which always ethnic minorities play a certain role. He shows that together with the function of borders the role of minorities has significantly changed in recent times. A special section is devoted to the only upgraded border, i.e. the border with Croatia.

Other cultural-geographical and political-geographical aspects comprise a glance of Oľga ŠKVARENINOVÁ (Trnava) on the impact of Slovakia's EU membership on Slovak language. She asserts the (also elsewhere frequent) phenomenon of 'glocalisation', i.e. the intrusion of English words and Anglicisms into the Slovak linguistic system to sound more attractive, striking, modern and younger. The second contribution to this chapter is Voicu BODOCAN's (Cluj-Napoca) discussion of the spatial pattern of Romanian post-Communist elections. This pattern has remained surprisingly stable despite of severe clashes and ruptures in domestic politics. It is mainly characterised by urban/rural, historical-cultural (cis-Carpathian/trans-Carpathian) and ethnic cleavages.

The last chapter on data processing for planning and regional development subsumes two project presentations. Evelin MÜLLER (Leipzig) portrays the journal "Europa Regional", edited by the Leibniz Institute of Regional Geography and focusing on the eastern part of Europe. Leoníd RUDENKO, Sergiy LISOVSKIY and Eugenia MARUNIAK (all Kiev [Kyiv]) present major projects of Ukrainian geographers like the National Atlas of Ukraine, the Atlas of Natural, Technological and Social Hazards and Emergency Risks in the Ukraine as well as modes of procedure in landscape planning.

The book offers thus a comprehensive survey over many geographical aspects of EU eastern enlargement and far beyond. The editor wishes to express his gratitude to all contributors, to Heinz FASSMANN, director, Institute of Urban and Regional Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, for all his generous support for the symposium as well as for this book, to Florian PARTL for his skilful layouting as well as to Jeniffer SCHELLENBACHER for the English proof reading of some manuscripts.

